



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch
CEPOA-CO-R
Post Office Box 6898
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: 6 April 2006

EXPIRATION DATE: 5 May 2006

REFERENCE NUMBER: POA-2006-515-4

WATERWAY: Nunavakanukakslak River

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, 4111 Aviation Avenue, P.O. Box 196900, Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6900.

LOCATION: The proposed project is located within section 5, T. 9 N., R. 74 W., and section 32, T. 10 N., R. 74 W., Seward Meridian; Latitude 60.906° N., Longitude 162.439° W.; at Nunapitchuk, Alaska.

PURPOSE: Provide needed improvements to the airport runway, apron, pedestrian access, and associated facilities to ensure safe, continued access to Nunapitchuk by air.

WORK: The applicant is proposing to improve the existing airport by filling 10.6 acres of wetlands for airport development and disturbing 5.4 acres of wetlands at the Atmautluak borrow site. Approximately 140,000 cubic yards (cy) of material will be excavated at the Atmautluak site (approximately 114,000 cy will be hauled to the project site and 26,000 cy being used to reclaim the borrow site when excavation activities are discontinued). The material site will be developed during the winter with material hauled to the project on the Johnson River ice road and placed within the embankment at the airport.

The proposed project would include the following:

1. Construct a 2,900 foot by 500 foot RSA that would incorporate a 2,300 foot long x 75 foot wide runway.
2. Construct a new 350 foot long by 79 foot wide taxiway safety area that would incorporate a 35 foot wide taxiway.
3. Construct a new 200 foot by 300 foot apron.
4. Construct a new 100 foot by 200 foot Aviation Support Area.
5. Construct a new 110 foot by 140 foot segmented circle pad to accommodate the segmented circle, lighted wind cone and AWOS equipment.
6. Construct embankments off the RSA for future PAPI's and REIL's.
7. Construct a floating access dock and ramp adjacent to the boat landing. The dock will be anchored with two steel pilings below OHW and two steel pilings

on the bank and is designed to float on the fluctuating river level. No other work is expected to occur in either river.

8. Construct a 250 foot by 24 foot wide access road from the boat landing to the apron.
9. Extend overhead power lines to the airport from the city's existing power plant via a 5,000 foot line extension.
10. Install medium intensity runway lighting, taxiway lighting and a rotating beacon.
11. Construct two 24 foot by 48 foot SREBs, one heated and one unheated.
12. Install two fuel storage tanks on the Aviation Support Area for maintenance equipment fuel and for SREB heating.
13. Abandon the existing apron, taxiway and a portion of the old access road (a portion of the old access road will be used for access to the segmented circle).
14. Purchase approximately 3 acres of property for airport right-of-way.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional information you may contact Mr. Burrell L. Nickeson, ADOT&PF, 4111 Aviation Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6900, or by phone at (907) 269-0536.

MITIGATION: This project was developed in compliance with the January 10, 2003 Memorandum of Agreement among the FAA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ADOT&PF, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game regarding impacts to wetland and other aquatic resources, mitigation and airport improvement projects in Alaska and Executive Order 11990. The applicant shall pay an in-lieu fee of \$500 per acre of wetlands impacted ($\$500 \times 16 \text{ acres} = \$8,000$) to the non-governmental conservation fund.

Construction below OHW and wetland impacts within the Johnson River tributary will be avoided with the use of a seasonal use floating access dock. In addition, Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be used during construction activities to minimize impacts to adjacent wetlands, the Johnson River tributary and the Nunavakanukakslak River. Slopes would be stabilized to prevent erosion. An Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) and a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared and implemented prior to construction. A Mining Reclamation plan will be developed and implemented by the contractor in compliance with ADOT&PF guidelines.

The following design features and mitigation plans have been developed to minimize harm to wetlands and other waters of the U.S.:

1. Project design has minimized the fill footprint to the extent practicable. Side slopes are minimized to 4:1, the minimum values recommended by FAA.
2. The existing airport access road and apron will be removed during construction by removing the gravel to surrounding, original, undisturbed elevation, reseeded with native grasses, and fertilized.
3. The contractor will be required to provide effective control of erosion and surface water runoff into adjacent streams and wetlands during construction. Compliance with EPA's NPDES General Permit for Construction Activities will be required of the contractor.
4. Construction vehicles will be prohibited outside permitted boundaries.
5. All exposed earthwork attributable to the project will be stabilized at the earliest date possible to prevent erosion both during and after project completion.
6. Wetland impacts at the borrow site will be minimized by mining as deep as possible with maximum 2:1 side slopes.
7. A Mining and Reclamation Plan will be written and implemented by the contractor. This plan will conform to ADOT&PF guidelines and reviewed by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources (ADNR). The plan will include details of procedure to be used during mining operations and during site restoration.
8. Equipment servicing and fueling operations will not occur within 100 feet of the Nunavakanukakslak River and the Johnson River tributary or any drainage

channels. Adequate sorbent materials will be kept on site to be used to contain and clean up any spill of petroleum products.

9. No vegetation clearing will occur between May 5 and July 25.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION: Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Project Management and Permitting, Department of Natural Resources has concurred with the applicant's certification.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between the Federal government and Federally recognized Tribes. This notice invites participation by agencies, Tribes, and members of the public in the Federal decision-making process. In addition, Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Engineer during the public comment period.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. *et seq* and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). We have determined that the described

activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: None.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Jim Wolfe at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at james.wolfe@poa02.usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

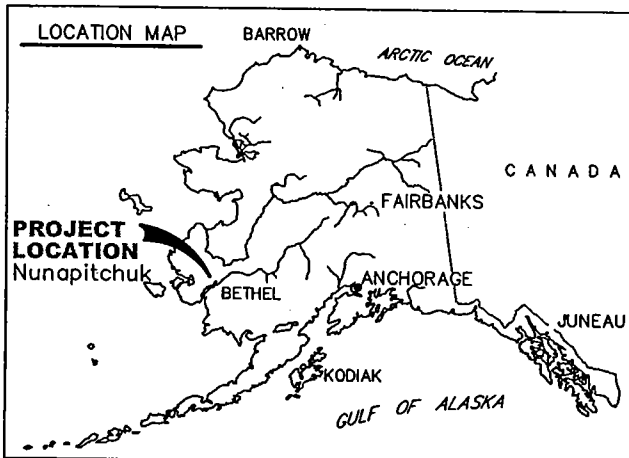
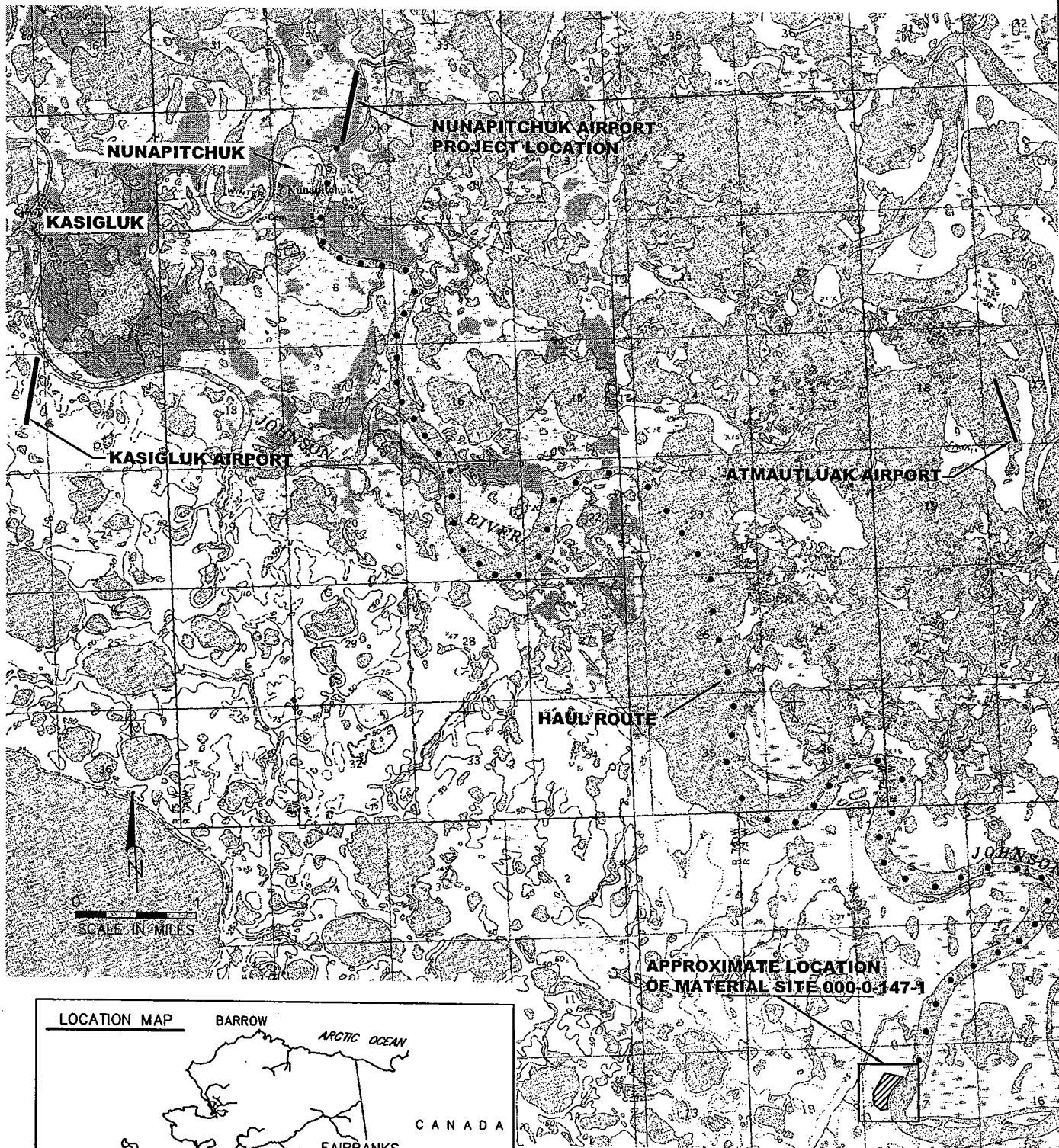
AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

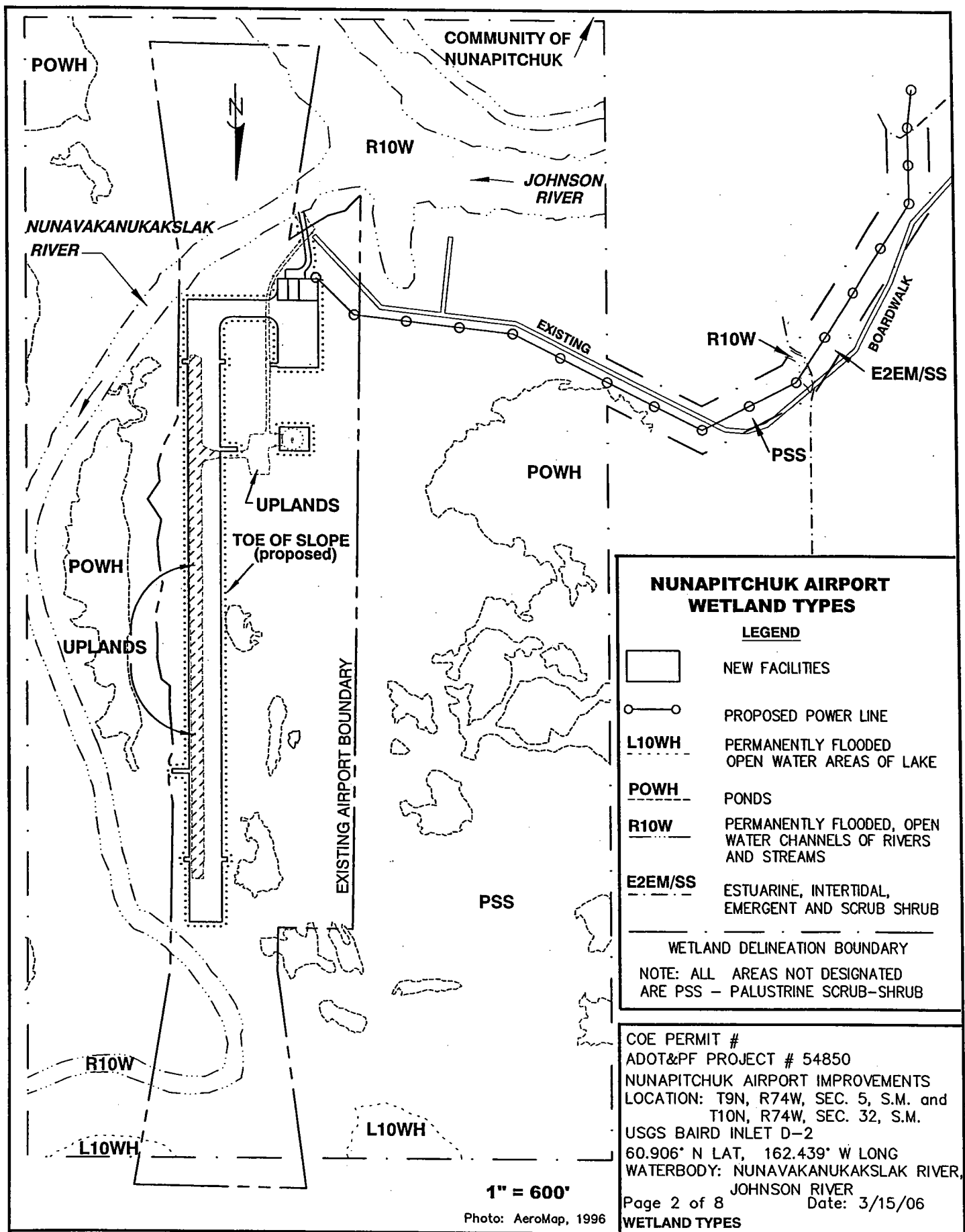
A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

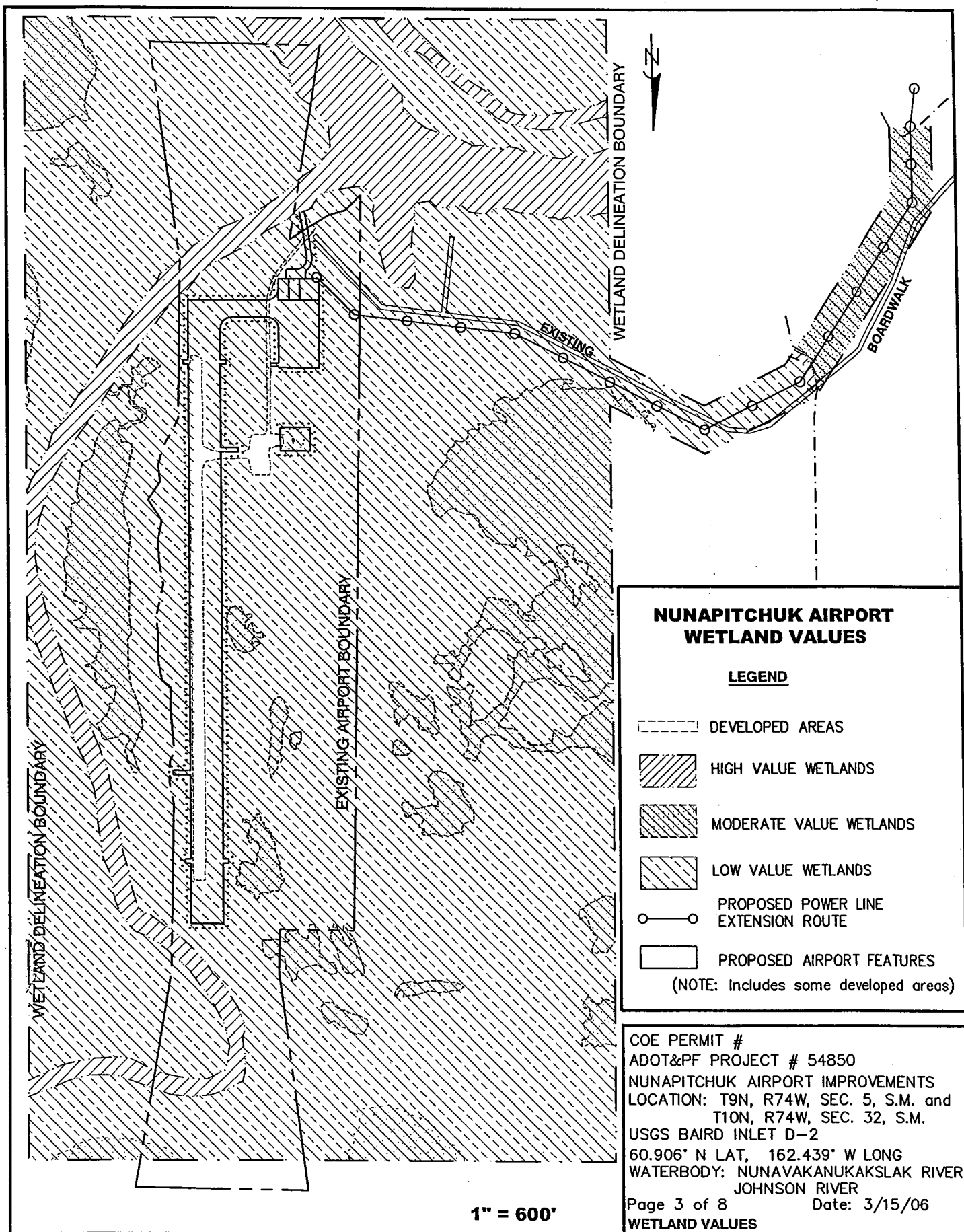
District Engineer
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Attachments



COE PERMIT #
 ADOT&PF PROJECT # 54850
 NUNAPITCHUK AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS
 LOCATION: T9N, R74W, SEC. 5, S.M. and
 T10N, R74W, SEC. 32, S.M.
 USGS BAIRD INLET D-2
 60.906° N LAT, 162.439° W LONG
 WATERBODY: NUNAVAKANUKAKSLAK RIVER,
 JOHNSON RIVER
 Page 1 of 8 Date: 03/15/06
 LOCATION AND VICINITY MAPS



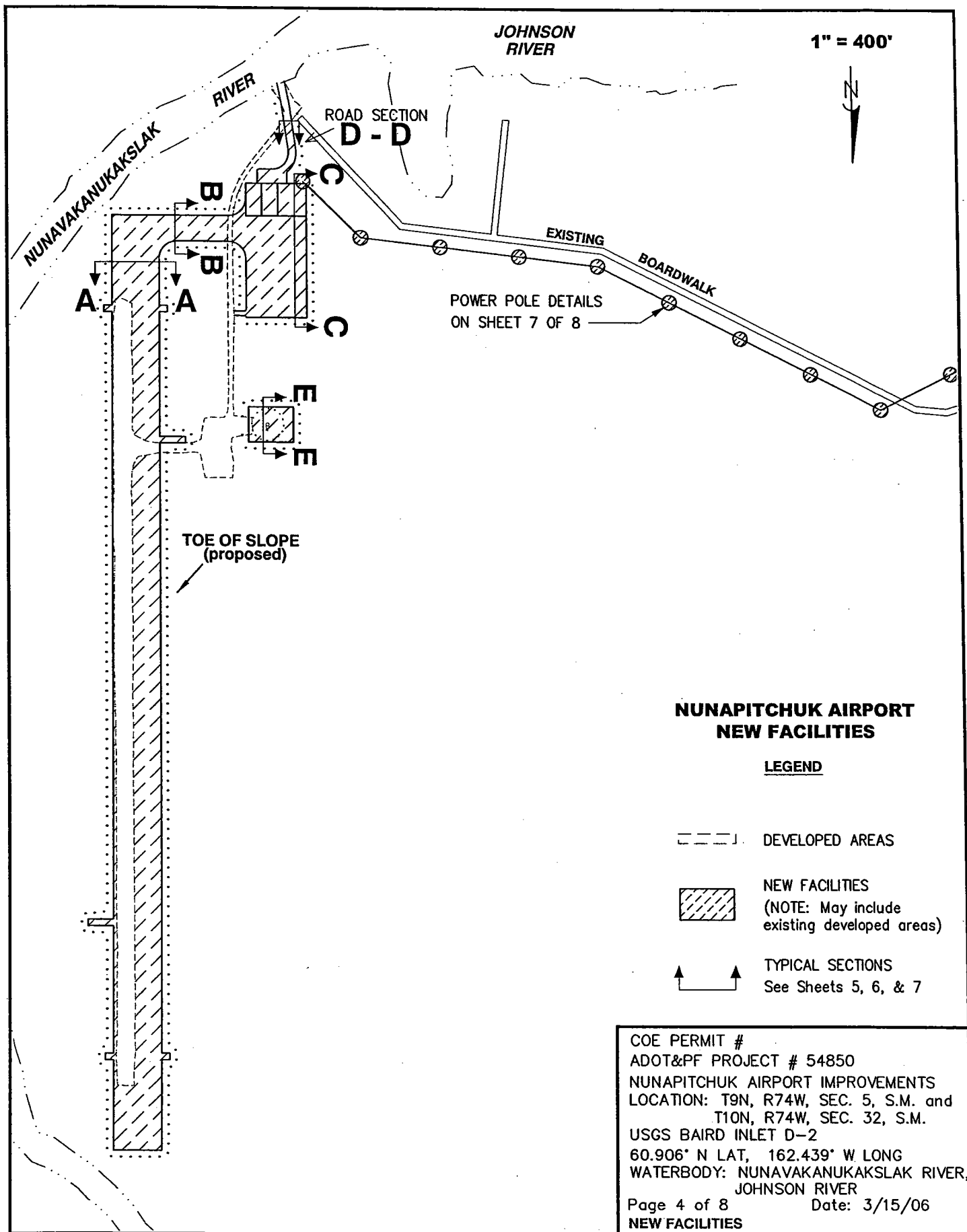


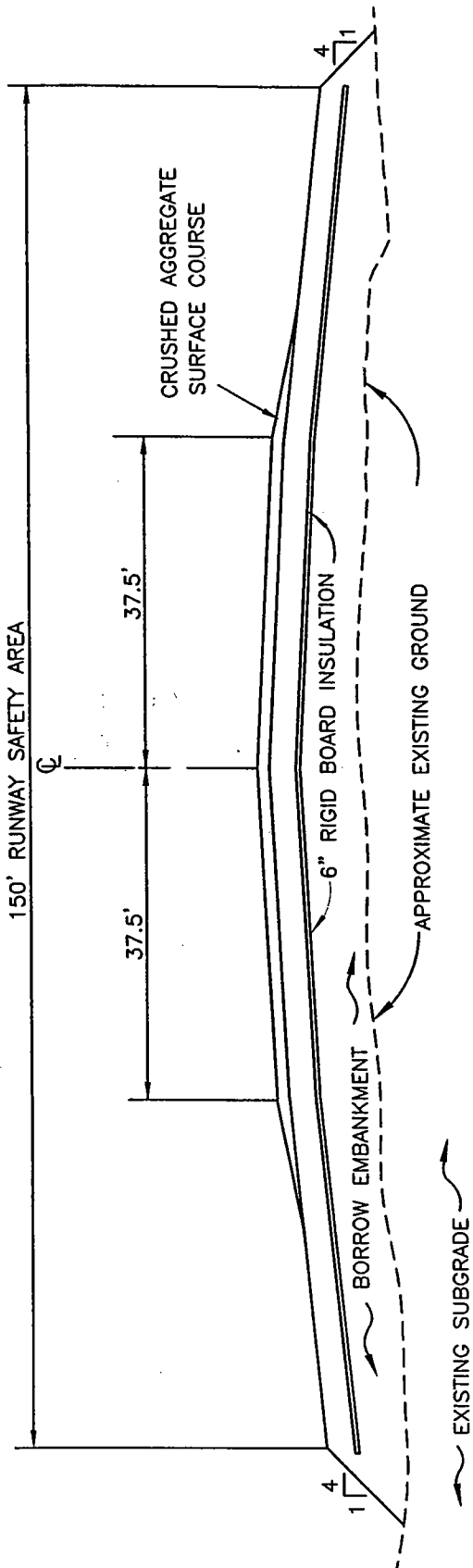
NUNAPITCHUK AIRPORT WETLAND VALUES

LEGEND

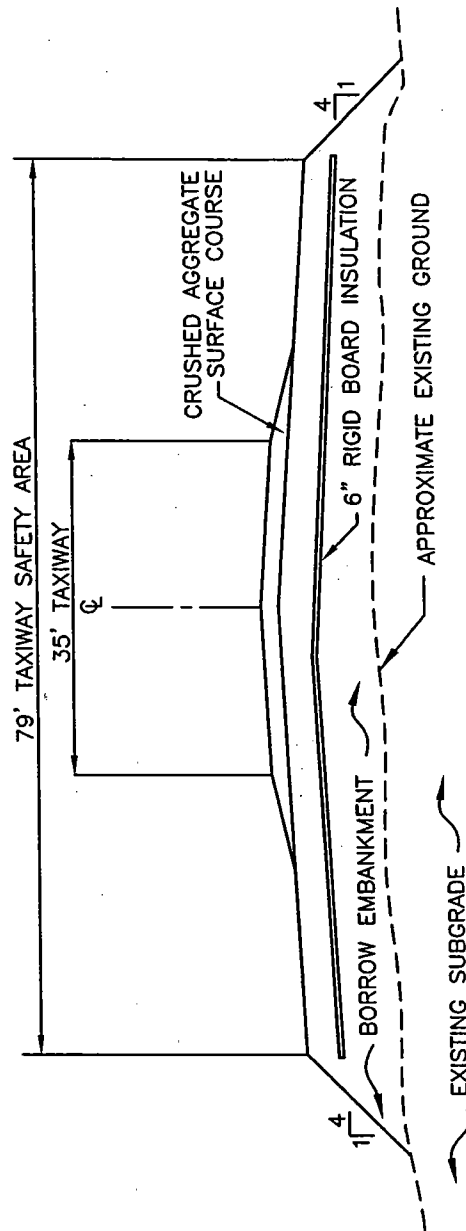
- DEVELOPED AREAS
- HIGH VALUE WETLANDS
- MODERATE VALUE WETLANDS
- LOW VALUE WETLANDS
- PROPOSED POWER LINE
EXTENSION ROUTE
- PROPOSED AIRPORT FEATURES
(NOTE: Includes some developed areas)

COE PERMIT #
ADOT&PF PROJECT # 54850
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T10N, R74W, SEC. 32, S.M.
USGS BAIRD INLET D-2
60.906° N LAT, 162.439° W LONG
WATERBODY: NUNAVAKANUKAKSLAK RIVER,
JOHNSON RIVER
Page 3 of 8 Date: 3/15/06
WETLAND VALUES



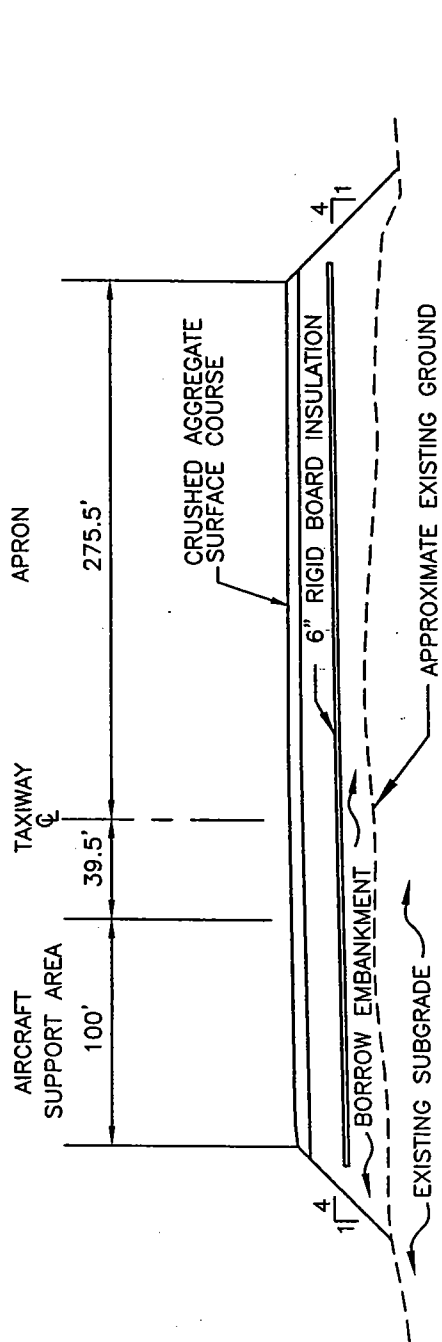


TYPICAL SECTION A - A (RUNWAY)
NOT TO SCALE

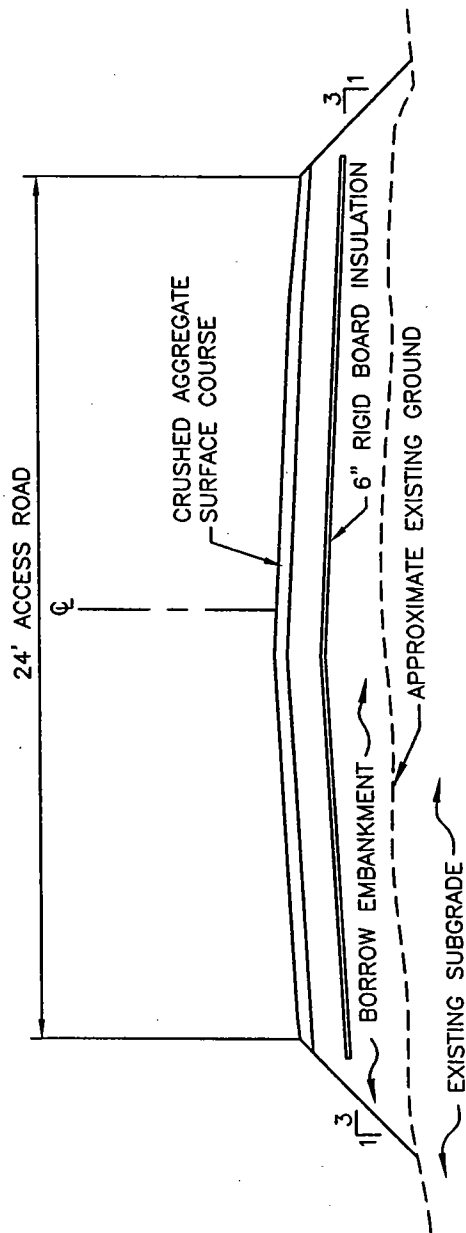


TYPICAL SECTION B - B (TAXIWAY)
NOT TO SCALE

COE PERMIT #
ADOT&PF PROJECT # 54850
NUNAPITCHUK AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS
LOCATION: T9N, R74W, SEC. 5, S.M. and
T10N, R74W, SEC. 32, S.M.
USGS BAIRD INLET D-2
60.906° N LAT, 162.439° W LONG
WATERBODY: NUNAVAKANUKAKSLAK RIVER,
JOHNSON RIVER
Page 5 of 8 Date: 03/15/06
TYPICAL SECTIONS - RUNWAY AND TAXIWAY

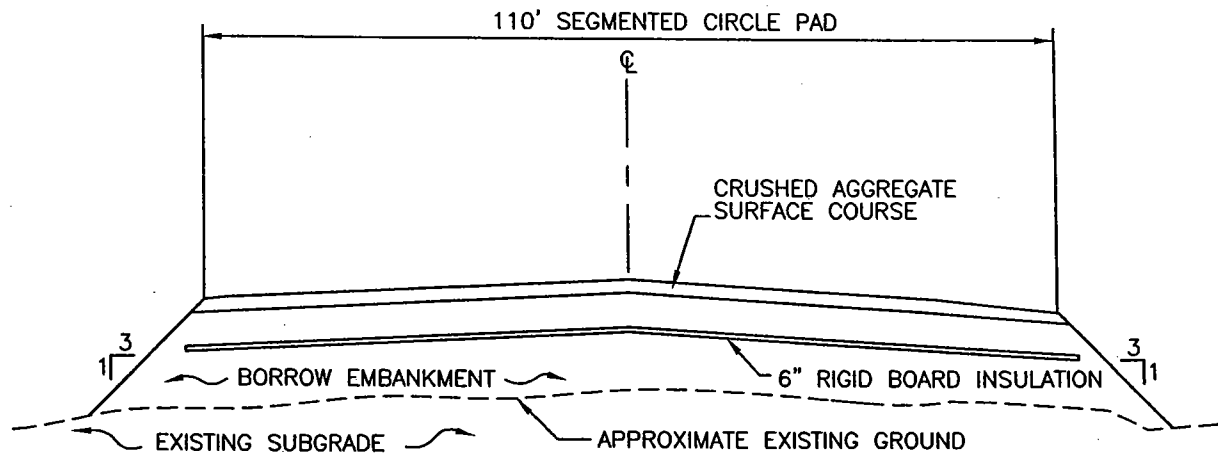


TYPICAL SECTION C - C APRON
NOT TO SCALE

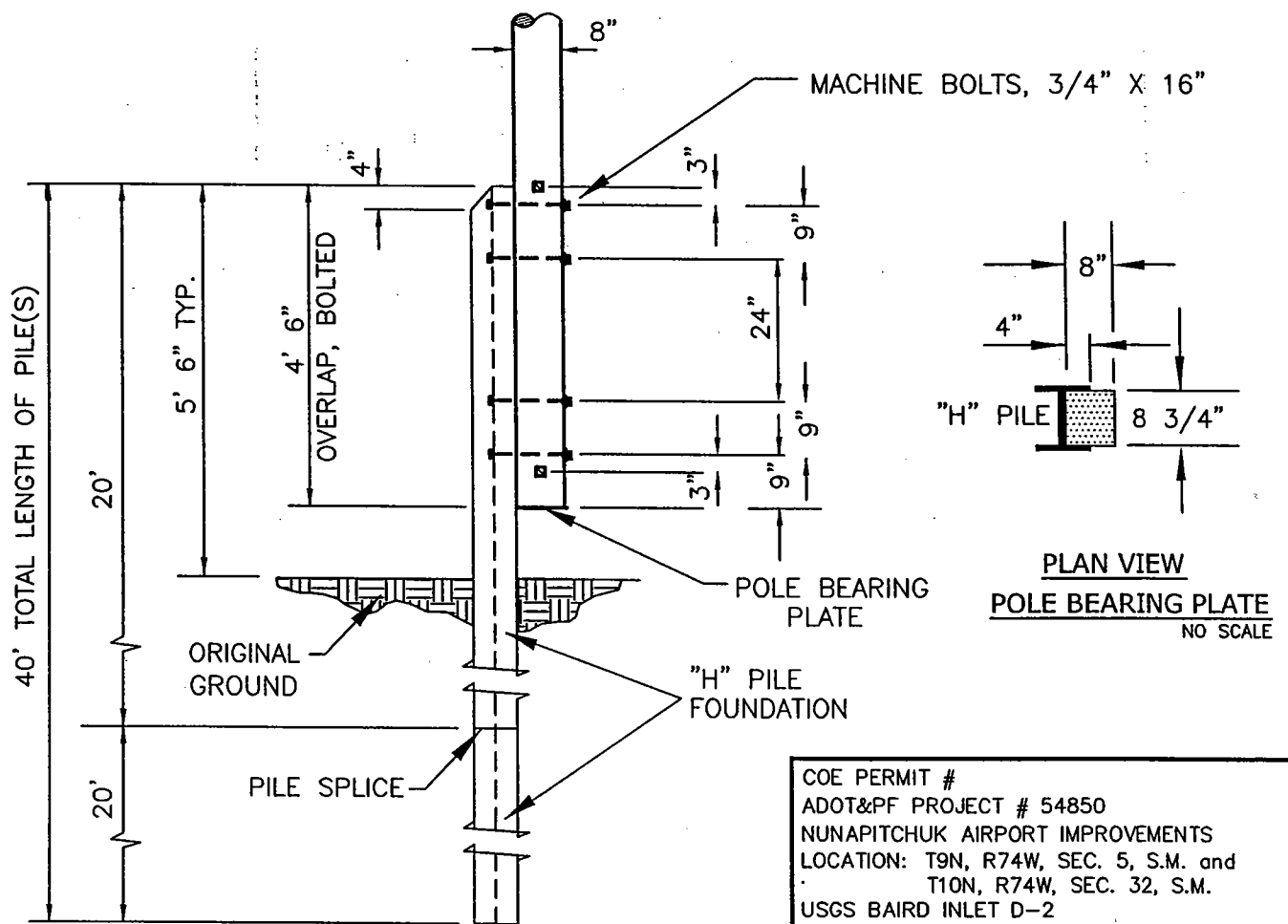


TYPICAL SECTION D - D (ROAD)
NOT TO SCALE

COE PERMIT #
ADOT&PF PROJECT # 54850
NUNAPITCHUK AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS
LOCATION: T9N, R74W, SEC. 5, S.M. and
T10N, R74W, SEC. 32, S.M.
USGS BAIRD INLET D-2
60.906° N LAT, 162.439° W LONG
WATERBODY: NUNAVAKANUKAKSLAK RIVER,
JOHNSON RIVER



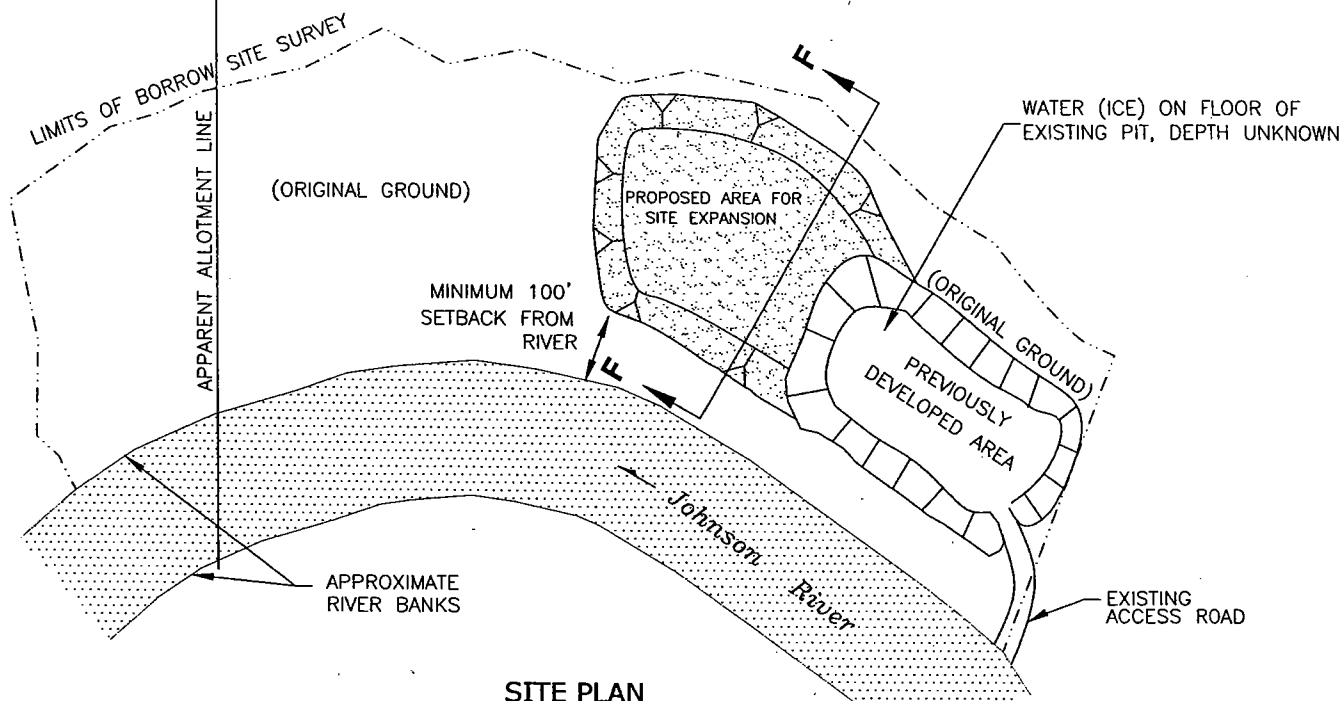
TYPICAL SECTION E - E SEGMENTED CIRCLE PAD
NOT TO SCALE



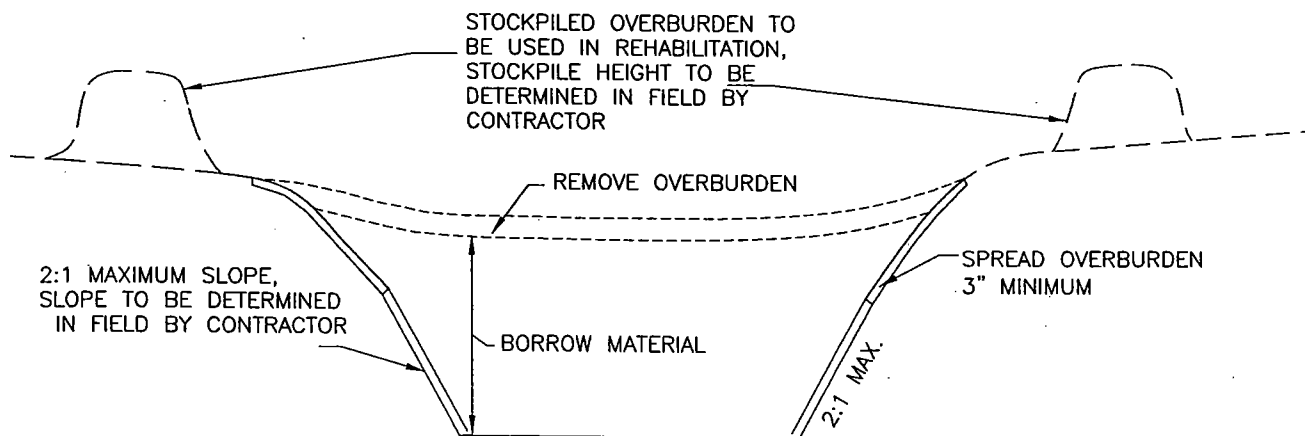
POWER POLE ATTACHMENT DETAIL
NO SCALE

COE PERMIT #
ADOT&PF PROJECT # 54850
NUNAPITCHUK AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS
LOCATION: T9N, R74W, SEC. 5, S.M. and
T10N, R74W, SEC. 32, S.M.
USGS BAIRD INLET D-2
60.906° N LAT, 162.439° W LONG
WATERBODY: NUNAVAKANUKAKSLAK RIVER,
JOHNSON RIVER
Page 7 of 8 Date: 03/15/06
CIRCLE TYPICAL AND POLE DETAILS

T8N, R74W, SEC. 18, S.M. (CALCULATED)



SITE PLAN
MATERIAL SITE 000-0-147-1
NOT TO SCALE



TYPICAL SECTION F - F (BORROW PIT)
NOT TO SCALE

NOTES:

1. ESTIMATED EMBANKMENT = 114,000 CUBIC YARDS
2. AFTER COMPLETION OF PROJECT, SPREAD STOCKPILED OVERBURDEN 3" MINIMUM THICKNESS. FERTILIZE AND SEED PER SPECIFICATIONS.
3. ANY DEWATERING NECESSARY WILL BE PUMPED INTO ANOTHER EXCAVATED CELL OR EXCAVATED SETTLING POND. NO DEWATERING INTO WETLAND AREAS OR AREAS ON UPLANDS THAT ARE NOT CONTAINED IN SOME MANNER.

COE PERMIT #
ADOT&PF PROJECT # 54850
NUNAPITCHUK AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS
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T10N, R74W, SEC. 32, S.M.
USGS BAIRD INLET D-2
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WATERBODY: NUNAVAKANUKAKSLAK RIVER,
JOHNSON RIVER

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING**

ALASKA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT
550 WEST 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 1660
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3568

**NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR
CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE
ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Office of Project Management and Permitting for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. **POA-2006-515-4, Nunavakanukakalak River**, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

The Office of Project Management and Permitting requests your comments, particularly on the proposed project's consistency with the affected local coastal district management program. For more information on the consistency review contact OPMP at (907) 269-7470 or (907) 465-3562, or visit the ACMP web site at <http://www.gov.state.ak.us/gdc/Projects/projects.html>.

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF WATER

401 Certification Program

Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. POA-2006-515-4, Nunavakanukakalak River, State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation
WQM/401 Certification
555 Cordova Street
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617
Telephone: (907) 269-6281
FAX: (907) 269-7508